

HOPKINS COUNTY FARMER'S MARKET ASSOCIATION BY-LAWS

Updated March 9, 2006

Time and Location

Saturday, Fairgrounds, 7:30 a.m. until Noon or until sold out Wednesday,
Fairgrounds, 12:30 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.

Purpose:

1. To provide an opportunity for producers to direct market their products in Hopkins County.
2. To provide an opportunity for community residents to purchase fresh, high quality products.

Membership:

1. Open to those growers and resellers in Hopkins County who pay their membership fee.
2. Membership is signified by paying annual fee and signing the agreement to follow the by-laws.
3. Membership fee is good until December 31 of the year it was purchased.
4. The membership of anyone living outside Hopkins County must be approved by a majority vote of existing members. Their membership must be approved annually.
5. Ex-officio members will include representatives from the Chamber of Commerce and the Hopkins County Extension Service. These members may attend all meetings, but are not able to vote or sell produce. Ex-officio members pay no fee.
6. Members are granted voting privileges.
7. Members of a family may sell on one membership. One vote per family. A family member may help another paying family member sell, but not in addition to that family member in a separate parking spot.
8. New members are accepted as space allows.
9. Sellers may resell purchased products, except if both buyer and seller are members of the Market and the products are regularly sold by one or both parties on the Market.
10. Members are responsible for their own taxes and insurance, as applicable.
11. Violations of any regulation may result in suspension of a seller's membership or in the case of serious or repeat violations, revocation of membership. These actions require approval of the Farmer's Market general membership.
12. There will be no assigned spaces.

Name:

The name of the organization shall be the Hopkins County Farmer's Market Association.

Membership Fees:

\$25.00 per season in advance; \$2.00 per market day for promotions, to be collected by the Market Manager

Meetings:

One meeting will be held in the Spring prior to opening day for organization of the upcoming season and one meeting will be held in the Fall to evaluate the previous year's market and determine changes that need to be made. Special meetings may be called as needed. Meeting notice must be sent to the entire membership a minimum of three days prior to the called meeting.

Products Allowed:

Vegetables and fruits, of the #2 USDA grade or higher, herbs, fruit baskets, bedding plants, hay, straw, Christmas trees, fruits, potted plants, cut or dried flowers, plant arrangements, baked goods, cider (pasteurized), honey, maple syrup and canned goods.

Products Not Allowed:

Fresh meats, eggs, antiques, carnival and flea market items. One crafter per week pre-arranged through manager only. Crafted items must be 51% plant material (e.g. Indian corn, gourds, etc.) Ribbons, bows or paint may be added.

Health Codes:

It is solely the vendor's responsibility to make sure produced goods follow all state and local health codes and labeling codes.

Littering:

No littering. Clean up after yourself and your customers.

Animals:

No pets, except service animals.

On-site Market Manager;

The Duties include:

The Market Manager shall enforce all the rules in the by-laws.

The Market Manager shall inspect produce for quality and inquire about customer complaints.

The Market Manager shall report all by-law violations to the Hopkins County Cooperative Extension Office, which will schedule a meeting and vote to consider revoking the membership of any by-laws violating member.

The Market Manager shall contact the Hopkins County Cooperative Extension Office immediately if abuse to the WIC and/or Senior Check program is suspected.

The Market Manager shall open and close the market at the Fairgrounds.

The Market Manager shall maintain order and cleanliness at the market.

The Market Manager position shall be filled by a vote of the membership at the fall meeting.

Pricing;

Pricing must be above wholesale terminal prices for that week. A copy of wholesale terminal prices are available from the USDA. No dumping tolerated.

Conduct;

No loudspeakers or bullhorns.

Product Displays;

All produce must be off of the ground or in a container.